

Appln No. 10/552,490
Amdt date March 20, 2008
Reply to Office action of December 26, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A beverage dispenser for ejecting a beverage into a receptacle[[],] comprising:
a housing including a taking-in/out space;
a plurality of nozzles provided above the taking-in/out space in the beverage dispenser, for ejecting the beverage[[],]into the receptacle;
obstacle detection means for detecting an obstacle around the ~~nozzle~~,plurality of nozzles; and
alarm means for issuing an alarm when the detection means detects the obstacle;
and
a nozzle cover for covering the plurality of nozzles and the obstacle detection means to partially close the taking-in/out space.
2. (Currently Amended) A beverage dispenser as defined by claim 1, further comprising a mechanism capable of not detecting wherein the obstacle detection means is configured to not detect the receptacle, into which the beverage is ejected from the beverage dispenser, as the obstacle.
3. (Currently Amended) A beverage dispenser as defined by claim 2, wherein the mechanism capable of not detecting the receptacle into which the beverage is ejected defines obstacle detection means is configured to include a detection area of the obstacle detection means in the vicinity of the nozzles.

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4. (Currently Amended) A beverage dispenser as defined by any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein ~~the~~ no alarm is ~~not~~ issued from the alarm means when the beverage is ejected.

5. (Previously Presented) A beverage dispenser as defined by claim 1, further comprising a switch capable of making the alarm means inoperative.

6. (Previously Presented) A beverage dispenser as defined by claim 1, wherein the alarm means is an acoustic generator.

7. (Canceled).

8. (New) A beverage dispenser as defined by claim 1, wherein the obstacle detection means is located between the plurality of nozzles and the receptacle to be placed in the taking-in/out space.